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OKLAHOMA LABOR MARKET

MAY 1988

The Oklahoma Labor Market is published monthly by the Research Department of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

BOB FUNSTON,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Oklahoma Labor Market provides information from household and industry surveys. Employment, unemployment, insured claimant characteristics, hours and earnings data are compiled and analyzed.

BERNICE STREET, DIRECTOR
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
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JOBLESS RATE FALLS AGAIN

The incidence of unemployment in Oklahoma dropped by 0.2 of a percentage point during the month as the jobless rate fell from 6.3 percent in April to 6.1 percent in May. This rate decline represents 4,000 fewer individuals out of work and continues the recent downward trend in the level of unemployment.

Total employment remained virtually unchanged over the month but has slipped 31,900 from the same month a year ago.

The 24.0 percent reduction in the number of unemployed since May 1987 and the reduced employment level has combined to bring the total civilian labor force down by 61,700.

NON-AG JOBS GAIN SEASONALLY

Wage and salary employment in Oklahoma gained 5,000 in May, as the total moved up to 1,100,600. Goods-producing industries contributed 800 of the total increase, while service-producing industries provided the balance.

Mining was the only industry to show a minor loss since April, as the other seven major industries were registering good seasonal gains.

Job growth in three industries - trade, manufacturing, and service - accounted for almost 90 percent of the overall monthly gain.

Employment gains were evenly distributed in all divisions of wholesale-retail trade, and services advanced by 800 in spite of a 1,400 seasonal decline in educational service.

Over the year, non-ag job totals are only 9,300 below last May and this trend continues to improve. Trade, finance-insurance-real estate, and transportation-public utilities still accounted for the majority of the annual drop, but contrary to last year's performance, two segments (manufacturing and service) now have more employees than were on their payrolls last May.

PAYCHECKS REMAIN STABLE

Oklahoma production workers employed in manufacturing plants, currently estimated at 112,100, earned an average $426.22 per week in May. This was only $3.09 less than April as the wage rates were stable and the workweek dropped only slightly.

The $3.00 decline was estimated for both durable and nondurable workers. Workers in the primary metal industries had the largest gain, up almost $27.00 per week over April

Over the year, the average paycheck for all production workers increased almost $11.00 per week as the hours worked remained stable and the hourly wage rate improved by 26 cents.

Durable goods rose $21.00 on the average while nondurables slipped by $7.00. The best gain was among transportation equipment workers. Their paychecks increased $53.00, while on the downside, newspapers and periodicals fell by $66.00 in the average week in May.

COUNTY JOBLESS RATES MOVE LOWER

Again in May, unemployment rates declined in a majority of Oklahoma's 77 counties as well as all four of the Metropolitan
Statistical Areas.

Since April, 44 counties have lowered their rates, 25 increased, and 8 remained unchanged. The lowest rate for May was the 2.2 percent posted by Woods County and the highest was 14.7 percent in Hughes County.

Employment increases and lower unemployment were prevalent in nearly all areas of the state, and while we still show 7 counties with over 10 percent of the labor force unemployed, there are also 25 counties with rates under 5 percent.

Compared to last May, unemployment rates are now running lower in 70 counties as well as the Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Enid Metro areas.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ALL URBAN CONSUMERS - 117.5

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	5.4%
OKLAHOMA	6.1%
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	4.9%
TULSA MSA	6.8%
LAWTON MSA	5.2%
ENID MSA	5.3%

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS IN MANUFACTURING (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	41.0
OKLAHOMA	41.3
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	41.2
TULSA MSA	41.0

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS
OKLAHOMA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	PRODUCTION WORKERS	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAY 1988p	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	112.1	426.22	429.31	415.48	41.3	41.6	41.3	10.32	10.32	10.06
Durable Goods	72.0	461.34	464.78	440.50	41.6	42.1	41.4	11.09	11.04	10.64
Stone,Clay & Glass	8.2	495.50	482.90	471.76	44.4	43.9	43.4	11.16	11.00	10.87
Primary Metal Ind.	3.4	450.70	423.15	459.90	42.2	42.4	45.4	10.68	9.98	10.13
Fab.Metal Products	10.5	366.83	383.64	364.91	40.4	41.7	40.5	9.08	9.20	9.01
Fab.Struct.Metals	4.3	368.59	376.82	371.28	41.0	41.5	42.0	8.99	9.08	8.84
Mach.Except Elect.	21.6	461.07	468.17	437.25	42.3	42.6	42.7	10.90	10.99	10.24
Oil Field Machinery	4.0	395.28	407.68	391.95	40.5	41.6	37.4	9.76	9.80	10.48
Elec.& Elec. Equip.	5.8	431.83	455.51	431.32	39.8	41.0	41.0	10.85	11.11	10.52
Transport. Equip.	15.8	568.58	562.88	515.87	40.7	40.7	38.7	13.97	13.83	13.33
Instr./Related Prod	1.8	474.10	469.80	482.73	44.6	44.7	45.8	10.63	10.51	10.54
Non-Durable Goods	40.1	362.64	365.89	369.82	40.7	40.7	41.0	8.91	8.99	9.02
Food & Kindred Prod	8.4	331.63	329.85	332.30	42.3	41.7	43.1	7.84	7.91	7.71
Apparel & Other Text.	7.8	194.33	184.73	189.76	37.3	35.8	37.8	5.21	5.16	5.02
Paper & Allied Prod.	2.7	411.93	455.82	439.62	41.4	45.4	43.1	9.95	10.04	10.20
Printing & Publish.	5.5	368.39	372.33	398.80	39.4	39.4	40.0	9.35	9.45	9.97
Newspapers & Period.	1.7	330.01	324.34	396.40	35.6	34.8	40.0	9.27	9.32	9.91
Petroleum Refining	3.9	530.44	570.71	515.42	41.8	43.8	41.3	12.69	13.03	12.48
Non-Manufacturing										
Oil & Gas Extract.	19.0	476.44	482.23	486.20	42.2	42.6	44.0	11.29	11.32	11.05
Construction	25.5	445.21	441.14	451.07	40.4	39.6	40.6	11.02	11.14	11.11
Public Utilities	21.7	493.14	440.08	506.88	39.2	40.9	42.1	12.58	10.76	12.04
Wholesale Trade	45.7	377.85	384.07	373.32	39.4	39.8	39.8	9.59	9.65	9.38
*Retail Trade	117.2	191.58	192.51	191.52	31.0	30.9	30.4	6.18	6.23	6.30

**Excludes eating and drinking establishments.*

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE
SUMMARY TABLE

(*By Place of Residence)

ITEM	NUMBER (In Thousands) MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	PERCENT CHANGE APR 88 MAY 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,523.1	1,527.9	1,584.8	-0.3	-4.8	-61.7
Unemployment	92.2	96.2	122.0	-4.2	-4.0	-29.8
Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.3	7.7	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	1,430.9	1,431.7	1,462.8	-0.1	-0.8	-31.9
Domestic Service-Self-Employed-Unpaid Family Workers	140.3	133.4	138.2	5.2	6.9	2.1
Idled by Labor Disputes	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

*Labor force data refers to place of residence, as required by the U. S Department of Labor. As a result, these estimates remove the effect of multiple jobholders and nonresident commuters included in wage and salary employment on a place-of-work basis. Workers idled by labor disputes are counted in total employment.

p=preliminary
r=revised

NON-AGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

(By place of Work)

INDUSTRY	NUMBER (In Thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE	ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
Total Wage & Salary Workers	1,100.6	1,095.6	1,109.9	0.5	5.0	-9.3
Manufacturing	155.8	154.9	153.7	0.6	0.9	2.1
Durable Goods	96.5	95.7	94.8	0.8	0.8	1.7
Lumber & Wood Prod.	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.6	0.1	0.1
Stone,Clay & Glass Prod.	10.0	10.0	10.3	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Primary Metal Industries	4.2	4.0	3.9	5.0	0.2	0.3
Fabricated Metal Prod.	13.9	13.9	13.8	0.0	0.0	0.1
Fab.Struct.Metal Prod.	6.3	6.3	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Machinery Exc.Electrical	30.4	29.9	29.0	1.7	0.5	1.4
Constr. & Related Mach.	10.1	9.7	9.2	4.1	0 4	0.9
Oil Field Machinery	6.4	6.1	5.5	4.9	0.3	0.9
Gen.Industrial Mach.	4.9	4.8	4.3	2.1	0.1	0.6
Elect.& Electronic Equip.	8.7	8.8	8.9	-1.1	-0.1	-0.2
Transportation Equip.	19.5	19.4	19.6	0.5	0.1	-0.1
Motor Vehicle & Equip.	11.2	11.0	11.3	1.8	0.2	-0.1
Aircraft & Parts	7.5	7.6	7.6	-1.3	-0.1	-0.1
Instruments & Rel.Prod.	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.1
Non-Durable Goods	59.3	59.2	58.9	0.2	0.1	0.4
Food & Kindred Prod.	13.9	13.8	13.7	0.7	0.1	0.2
Apparel & Textile Prod.	8.7	8.9	8.5	-2.2	-0.2	0.2
Paper & Allied Prod.	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Printing & Publishing	10.9	10.9	11.2	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Newspapers & Period.	5.5	5.5	5.9	0.0	0.0	-0.4
Petroleum & Coal Prod.	7.2	7.1	7.3	1.4	0.1	-0.1
Petroleum Refining	6.5	6.4	6.6	1.6	0.1	-0.1
Rubber/Misc.Plast.Prod.	11.0	10.9	10.6	0.9	0.1	0.4
Tires & Inner Tubes	6.0	5.9	5.7	1.7	0.1	0.3
Non-Manufacturing	944.8	940.7	956.2	0.4	4.1	-11.4
Mining	43.2	44.0	45.0	-1.8	-0.8	-1.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	40.6	41.4	42.4	-1.9	-0.8	-1.8
Construction	32.3	31.6	34.2	2.2	0.7	-1.9
HV Const.Contractors	7.5	7.4	7.9	1.4	0.1	-0.4
Transp.& Pub. Utilities	61.2	60.9	63.3	0.5	0.3	-2.1
Transportation	33.2	33.0	33.6	0.6	0.2	-0.4
Railroad Transportation	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trucking & Warehousing	15.7	15.5	16.2	1.3	0.2	-0.5
Pipe Lines,exc.Nat.Gas	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
Comm.&Elec/Gas/San Service	28.0	27.9	29.7	0.4	0.1	-1.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	265.1	262.3	269.5	1.1	2.8	-4.4
Wholesale Trade	59.1	58.7	58.6	0.7	0.4	0.5
Retail Trade	206.0	203.6	210.9	1.2	2.4	-4.9
Gen.Merchandise Stores	28.1	27.6	28.4	1.8	0.5	-0.3
Department Stores	11.7	11.5	11.8	1.7	0.2	-0.1
Food Stores	35.9	35.8	36.8	0.3	0.1	-0.9
Auto.Dlrs/Ser.Station	24.9	24.7	25.0	0.8	0.2	-0.1
Apparel & Acces.Stores	12.1	12.1	12.9	0.0	0.0	-0.8
Fin,Insur.& Real Estate	56.7	56.5	59.7	0.4	0.2	-3.0
Banking	18.3	18.3	19.5	0.0	0.0	-1.2
Credit Agenc.OT Banks	9.4	9.4	9.7	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Insurance Carriers	7.9	7.9	8.9	0.0	0.0	-1.0
Services	234.2	233.4	232.1	0.3	0.8	2.1
Hotels & Lodging Places	12.1	11.8	12.2	2.5	0.3	0.1
Personal Services	12.3	12.7	12.4	-3.1	-0.4	-0.1
Motion Pictures	1.4	1.3	1.5	7.7	0.1	-0.1
Health Services	75.2	75.0	73.4	0.3	0.2	1.8
Hospitals	29.6	29.7	28.6	-0.3	-0.1	1.0
Educational Services	12.0	13.4	11.4	-10.4	-1.4	0.6
Government, Total	252.1	252.0	252.4	0.0	0.1	0.3
Federal Government	50.3	50.0	52.9	0.6	0.3	-2.6
State and Local Government	201.8	202.0	199.5	-0.1	-0.2	2.3
*State Government	72.0	72.0	69.4	0.0	0.0	2.6
Local Government	129.8	130.0	130.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3

p=preliminary
r=revised

* Employment levels for State Government as measured by full-time (FTE) are as follows;
MAY, 1988 = 58,235 A FTE is based on a 40-hour work week and an average 173-hour work month.
The FTE count is determined by dividing total person-hours worked per month by 173.

MAY 1988

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE DATA

METROPOLITAN AREAS AND COUNTIES

	AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	MAY 88	APR 88	MAY 87
	U. S.	114,222,000	6,553,000	120,775,000	5.4	5.3	6.1
	OKLAHOMA	1,430,900	92,200	1,523,100	6.1	6.3	7.7
	COUNTIES						
1	ADAIR	8,750	640	9,390	6.8	6.6	8.0
2	ALFALFA	3,200	90	3,290	2.7	3.6	2.8
3	ATOKA	7,740	510	8,250	6.2	7.2	7.9
4	BEAVER	2,790	110	2,900	3.8	3.7	3.3
5	BECKHAM	7,030	670	7,700	8.7	8.1	11.4
6	BLAINE	5,840	240	6,080	3.9	4.6	6.4
7	BRYAN	13,660	820	14,480	5.7	5.3	7.2
8	CADDO	11,110	1,160	12,270	9.5	9.2	10.0
9	CANADIAN	33,850	1,825	35,675	5.1	4.9	6.3
10	CARTER	19,025	1,250	20,275	6.2	6.6	9.7
11	CHEROKEE	14,830	1,220	16,050	7.6	7.5	8.9
12	CHOCTAW	4,730	530	5,260	10.1	10.2	13.9
13	CIMARRON	1,590	80	1,670	4.8	4.5	4.1
14	CLEVELAND	80,525	3,650	84,175	4.3	4.4	5.6
15	COAL	2,330	320	2,650	12.1	13.8	13.3
16	COMANCHE	47,525	2,625	50,150	5.2	5.5	4.8
17	COTTON	2,970	150	3,120	4.8	4.4	4.0
18	CRAIG	6,140	410	6,550	6.3	6.4	9.1
19	CREEK	26,050	2,350	28,400	8.3	8.3	10.9
20	CUSTER	13,050	600	13,650	4.4	5.0	6.5
21	DELAWARE	11,490	720	12,210	5.9	6.5	7.9
22	DEWEY	2,170	100	2,270	4.4	5.2	7.2
23	ELLIS	3,050	110	3,160	3.5	3.1	4.2
24	GARFIELD	28,050	1,575	29,625	5.3	5.3	7.3
25	GARVIN	11,770	780	12,550	6.2	5.9	9.3
26	GRADY	16,670	1,360	18,030	7.5	7.6	9.0
27	GRANT	2,790	70	2,860	2.4	2.9	4.6
28	GREER	2,740	100	2,840	3.5	4.1	4.8
29	HARMON	1,590	150	1,740	8.6	7.2	6.9
30	HARPER	2,200	80	2,280	3.5	5.5	4.0
31	HASKELL	3,750	480	4,230	11.3	11.0	14.9
32	HUGHES	4,350	750	5,100	14.7	15.0	17.2
33	JACKSON	10,400	640	11,040	5.8	6.5	6.9
34	JEFFERSON	3,500	230	3,730	6.2	5.6	9.0
35	JOHNSTON	3,700	190	3,890	4.9	5.7	7.5
36	KAY	24,700	1,275	25,975	4.9	5.3	6.6
37	KINGFISHER	6,140	310	6,450	4.8	4.5	7.5
38	KIOWA	4,910	220	5,130	4.3	5.2	5.0
39	LATIMER	4,290	360	4,650	7.7	6.9	11.8
40	LEFLORE	18,260	1,380	19,640	7.0	6.3	8.7
41	LINCOLN	11,330	950	12,280	7.7	8.9	10.1
42	LOGAN	13,340	680	14,020	4.9	4.5	5.3
43	LOVE	3,840	190	4,030	4.7	4.8	6.4
44	McCLAIN	10,660	650	11,310	5.7	5.5	6.4
45	McCURTAIN	14,030	1,040	15,070	6.9	7.9	9.7

	COUNTIES	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	MAY 88	APR 88	MAY 87
46	McINTOSH	6,830	330	7,160	4.6	5.1	5.8
47	MAJOR	3,360	180	3,540	5.1	6.0	6.7
48	MARSHALL	4,340	260	4,600	5.7	6.3	7.1
49	MAYES	13,240	1,180	14,420	8.2	12.9	10.6
50	MURRAY	5,550	460	6,010	7.7	7.5	9.4
51	MUSKOGEE	28,975	2,750	31,725	8.7	8.7	9.0
52	NOBLE	4,690	250	4,940	5.1	5.2	6.7
53	NOWATA	3,980	340	4,320	7.9	7.9	10.8
54	OKFUSKEE	5,540	460	6,000	7.7	7.4	7.4
55	OKLAHOMA	310,025	16,125	326,150	4.9	5.2	6.1
56	OKMULGEE	13,675	1,550	15,225	10.2	10.6	10.2
57	OSAGE	15,825	1,050	16,875	6.2	6.2	6.3
58	OTTAWA	11,075	1,000	12,075	8.3	8.4	15.2
59	PAWNEE	7,150	590	7,740	7.6	8.6	10.1
60	PAYNE	30,350	1,250	31,600	4.0	4.1	4.8
61	PITTSBURG	16,050	1,875	17,925	10.5	10.4	11.9
62	PONTOTOC	16,500	1,100	17,600	6.3	6.2	8.3
63	POTTAWATOMIE	25,350	1,600	26,950	5.9	6.2	8.5
64	PUSHMATAHA	4,520	260	4,780	5.4	5.8	7.5
65	ROGER MILLS	1,880	110	1,990	5.5	8.3	9.2
66	ROGERS	22,180	2,120	24,300	8.7	8.7	9.8
67	SEMINOLE	9,150	1,050	10,200	10.3	10.9	13.0
68	SEQUOYAH	16,960	900	17,860	5.0	5.0	6.5
69	STEPHENS	16,010	1,160	17,170	6.8	7.1	14.0
70	TEXAS	7,970	380	8,350	4.6	4.4	8.4
71	TILLMAN	4,330	310	4,640	6.7	6.8	7.9
72	TULSA	232,125	16,275	248,400	6.6	6.8	8.5
73	WAGONER	18,970	1,370	20,340	6.7	7.2	8.5
74	WASHINGTON	23,170	1,120	24,290	4.6	4.5	6.2
75	WASHITA	5,090	310	5,400	5.7	6.7	9.0
76	WOODS	5,330	120	5,450	2.2	3.0	4.2
77	WOODWARD	8,200	660	8,860	7.4	7.6	9.2
	OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	473,800	24,500	498,300	4.9	5.1	6.2
	TULSA MSA	315,100	23,100	338,200	6.8	7.1	8.7

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

A	-NORTHWEST	33,300	1,600	34,900	4.6
B	-SOUTHWEST	46,700	2,800	49,500	5.7
C	-NORTH CENTRAL	78,800	4,000	82,800	4.8
D	-SOUTH CENTRAL	112,800	7,600	120,400	6.3
E	-CENTRAL	368,500	19,000	387,500	4.9
F	-TULSA	274,000	19,700	293,700	6.7
G	-EAST CENTRAL	93,200	6,700	99,900	6.7
H	-SOUTHERN	88,500	5,900	94,400	6.3
I	-NORTHEAST	91,300	6,900	98,200	7.0
J	-EASTERN	218,000	17,500	235,500	7.4
K	-SOUTHEAST	131,200	11,800	143,000	8.3
L	-CLEVELAND	138,400	6,600	145,000	4.6

OKLAHOMA CITY
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	400.5	397.7	403.7	2.8	-3.2
MANUFACTURING	47.2	46.9	46.7	0.3	0.5
DURABLE GOODS	32.5	32.3	32.1	0.2	0.4
Primary & Fabricated Metals	4.3	4.2	4.3	0.1	0.0
Fab.Struc.Metal Products	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Machinery	13.6	13.7	13.7	-0.1	-0.1
Mach. Except Electric	10.7	10.8	10.8	-0.1	-0.1
Electric & Electronic Equip.	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment	10.3	10.2	9.9	0.1	0.4
NON-DURABLE GOODS	14.7	14.6	14.6	0.1	0.1
Food and Kindred Products	5.2	5.1	5.0	0.1	0.2
Printing & Publishing	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-0.1
MINING	11.0	11.1	11.2	-0.1	-0.2
CONSTRUCTION	12.6	12.1	12.6	0.5	0.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	19.2	19.0	20.0	0.2	-0.8
Transportation	9.4	9.3	9.4	0.1	0.0
Comm. & Public Utilities	9.8	9.7	10.6	0.1	-0.8
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	99.4	98.2	101.7	1.2	-2.3
Wholesale Trade	22.2	22.1	22.5	0.1	-0.3
Retail Trade	77.2	76.1	79.2	1.1	-2.0
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	23.8	23.8	25.0	0.0	-1.2
Banking	5.6	5.6	6.2	0.0	-0.6
Credit Agencies Other Than Bank	4.1	4.1	4.0	0.0	0.1
Insurance Carriers	4.5	4.6	4.9	-0.1	-0.4
SERVICES	89.9	89.6	88.8	0.3	1.1
Health Services	26.3	26.3	25.7	0.0	0.6
Hospitals	11.8	11.8	11.3	0.0	0.5
Educational Services	4.7	4.9	4.0	-0.2	0.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	97.4	97.0	97.7	0.4	-0.3
Total Federal Government	28.4	28.3	30.4	0.1	-2.0
Total State/Local Gover.	69.0	68.7	67.3	0.3	1.7
Total State Government	34.4	34.4	33.6	0.0	0.8
Total Local Government	34.6	34.3	33.7	0.3	0.9

p=preliminary
r=revised

OKLAHOMA CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, McClain and Pottawatomie Counties)

The labor force data for the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Statistical Area showed further improvement for the April-May comparison period. A 1,900 gain in employment, combined with a 900 drop in unemployment, brought the jobless rate down to 4.9 percent. This was only the second time since August 1982 that the rate has dipped below the 5 percent level.

While the May figures are still not up to par with the same month last year, key indicators are now pointing toward a more positive trend.

Spurred on by increased seasonal hiring in 7 of the 8 major industrial components, wage and salary jobs moved up to 400,500 in the Oklahoma City area in May. This was a 2,800 rise from the revised April estimate and is basically equal to the historical average gain that normally occurs in this estimation period.

Over 40 percent of the job gain came in Trade, where 1,200 more workers were employed. Increased hiring also pushed Construction up by 500 and Government by 400.

Over the year, nonfarm payrolls have declined 3,200 below last May, but the gap is beginning to narrow.

Several components have not yet recovered to their May 1987 levels, but Manufacturing and Service are several hundred jobs ahead of last year and Construction has pulled even.

Manufacturing wages were unchanged in May for the estimated 34,500 production workers in the Oklahoma City area. Both hours worked and wage rates were stable over the 30-day period for durable and nondurable workers.

Compared to last May, weekly wages for all production workers are averaging $26.00 higher. This increase is primarily because of a 50 cent higher wage rate than was in effect last May.

Substantial increases are apparent in durable goods, while nondurables has seen wage rates and weekly pay fall slightly.

OKLAHOMA CITY
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	498,300	497,300	512,800	1,000	-14,500
Unemployment	24,500	25,400	31,600	-900	-7,100
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.1	6.2	xxx	xxx
Employment	473,800	471,900	481,200	1,900	-7,400

OKLAHOMA CITY
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	481.63	481.82	455.43	41.2	41.5	40.7	11.69	11.61	11.19
Durable Goods	521.67	524.52	481.11	41.7	42.3	40.6	12.51	12.40	11.85
Prim. & Fab. Metals	395.02	414.96	409.96	43.6	45.5	45.1	9.06	9.12	9.09
Machinery	518.20	535.92	498.17	40.9	42.0	40.8	12.67	12.76	12.21
Nondurable Goods	371.45	370.66	390.16	39.6	39.6	41.2	9.38	9.36	9.47
Food & Kindred Products	311.71	312.53	339.63	40.8	40.8	43.1	7.64	7.66	7.88
Printing & Pub.	386.45	386.65	390.66	36.7	37.0	37.1	10.53	10.43	10.53

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 APR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	288.7	287.4	289.2	1.3	-0.5
MANUFACTURING	48.0	47.7	47.0	0.3	1.0
DURABLE GOODS	36.7	36.5	35.9	0.2	0.8
Stone,Clay & Glass Products	3.6	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2
Primary & Fabricated Metals	10.2	10.2	9.7	0.0	0.5
Primary Metal Industries	1.9	1.9	1.7	0.0	0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	8.3	8.3	8.0	0.0	0.3
Fab. Struc.Metal Products	4.2	4.1	3.9	0.1	0.3
Machinery	12.9	12.8	12.3	0.1	0.6
Mach.Except Electric	9.8	9.6	9.3	0.2	0.5
Const.& Related Machinery	3.9	3.8	3.5	0.1	0.4
Electric & Electronic Equip.	3.1	3.2	3.0	-0.1	0.1
Transportation Equipment	7.2	7.1	7.7	0.1	-0.5
NON-DURABLE GOODS	11.3	11.2	11.1	0.1	0.2
Printing & Publishing	3.4	3.4	3.4	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	2.1	2.0	1.8	0.1	0.3
MINING	14.9	14.8	15.3	0.1	-0.4
CONSTRUCTION	9.6	9.2	10.5	0.4	-0.9
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.8	23.8	23.2	0.0	0.6
Transportation	15.8	15.7	15.2	0.1	0.6
Comm.& Public Utilities	8.0	8.1	8.0	-0.1	0.0
TRADE	69.8	68.8	70.1	1.0	-0.3
Wholesale Trade	17.5	17.4	17.5	0.1	0.0
Retail Trade	52.3	51.4	52.6	0.9	-0.3
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	17.1	17.1	17.5	0.0	-0.4
Banking	4.1	4.1	4.6	0.0	-0.5
SERVICES	69.5	69.9	69.9	-0.4	-0.4
Health Services	22.2	22.2	21.8	0.0	0.4
Hospitals	11.7	11.8	11.6	-0.1	0.1
Educational Services	3.9	4.3	4.4	-0.4	-0.5
GOVERNMENT	36.0	36.1	35.7	-0.1	0.3
Federal	4.1	4.1	4.3	0.0	-0.2
State	6.0	6.0	4.6	0.0	1.4
Local	25.9	26.0	26.8	-0.1	-0.9

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA METROPOLITAN AREA

(Tulsa, Creek, Osage, Rogers and Wagoner Counties)

Preliminary labor force estimates place the May unemployment rate at 6.8 percent for the Tulsa MSA. The decline from the revised April rate of 7.1 percent resulted from the combination of a 900 decrease in unemployment and an increase of 400 in total employed during the month. While the unemployment rate has declined from 8.7 percent to 6.8 percent over the past year and unemployment receded by 7,300 during the year, the annual employment change was a disappointing 4,200 loss.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Tulsa MSA reached 288,700 during May, or a 1,300 month-to-month job increase. The 1,000 jobs expansion in the trade industry accounted for most of the monthly employment growth, with a majority of these new trade jobs originating in the eating and drinking establishment sector. Other industries with increased May employment were construction (up 400), manufacturing (up 300),and mining and transportation-public utilities (up 100 each). Seasonal cuts in the education service sector were largely responsible for the 400 jobs lost by services, while government employment also slipped 100 lower.

Year-to-year comparisons showed total employment 500 lower than in May, 1987. Three industries recorded employment advances while five industries had lower employment levels than a year ago. The 1,000 annual increase in manufacturing employment occurred primarily in the durable goods sector. The air transportation sector sustained most of the growth for the transportation-public utilities industry. The 300 annual increase in government jobs is attributed to a delay in reporting the usual seasonal reductions in the state education sector, these decreases will not be reflected until next month.

The three industries listed above accounted for a total annual employment gain of 1,900. Corresponding losses in the five remaining industries totaled 2,400 jobs. The construction industry led with losses of 900 over the year. Three industries; mining, services and finance-insurance-real estate, recorded losses of 400 employees each. The retail trade sector was responsible for 300 of these annual losses.

The average weekly earnings for the 30,100 manufacturing productions workers in the Tulsa MSA was $445.67 for May. This is virtually unchanged from the previous month, as were the average weekly hours and average hourly earnings. Average hours and earnings for both durable goods workers and non-durable goods workers also reflected negligible month-to-month changes. The May weekly earnings figure was $12.54 (2.8 percent) higher than that for a year earlier.

TULSA
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	338,200	338,700	349,700	-500	-11,500
Unemployment	23,100	24,000	30,400	-900	-7,300
Unemployment Rate	6.8	7.1	8.7	XXX	XXX
Employment	315,100	314,700	319,300	400	-4,200

TULSA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	445.67	445.94	433.13	41.0	41.1	40.9	10.87	10.85	10.59
Durable goods	460.62	461.61	447.86	41.2	41.4	40.9	11.18	11.15	10.95
Prim & Fab. Metals	395.78	412.37	376.10	41.4	42.6	39.3	9.56	9.68	9.57
Machinery	411.87	412.48	397.07	40.3	40.4	40.6	10.22	10.21	9.78
Non-Durable Goods	377.60	378.00	371.37	40.0	40.0	40.9	9.44	9.45	9.08
Printing & Pub	417.52	402.19	442.55	39.5	37.8	42.8	10.57	10.64	10.34

p=preliminary
r=revised

ENID METROPOLITAN AREA

(Garfield County)

The unemployment rate for the Enid MSA remained unchanged at 5.3 percent during May. Total unemployment also held steady at 1,575, while the 100 decline in total employment was insufficient to trigger a higher unemployment rate. The 650 reduction in unemployment over the year provided the main impetus for the 2 percent decline in the unemployment rate since May, 1987.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Enid MSA grew by 200 during May to a total of 21,900, the same as in May, 1987. Four of eight major industries indicated increased employment for the month, three industries were unchanged, and the service industry contracted by 300 jobs. Seasonal reductions in education services produced most of the services losses. Trade growth of 200 jobs provided increased employment during May, while 100 jobs each were added by the construction, government, and transportation-public utilities industries. In the year-to-year comparisons, total wage and salary employment in all eight major industries were unchanged from the May, 1987 totals.

The labor market in the Enid area is expected to remain sluggish, even with the seasonal employment opportunities offered in agriculture and traditional summer recreational areas.

ENID
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
ITEM	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	29,625	29,725	30,500	-100	-875
Unemployment	1,575	1,575	2,225	0	-650
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.3	7.3	xxx	xxx
Employment	28,050	28,150	28,275	-100	-225

ENID
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
Industry	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	21.9	21.7	21.9	0.2	0.0
MANUFACTURING	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
DURABLE GOODS	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	0.1
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.2	2.1	2.2	0.1	0.0
TRADE	6.4	6.2	6.4	0.2	0.0
Wholesale Trade	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	5.0	4.8	4.9	0.2	0.1
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
SERVICES	5.4	5.7	5.4	-0.3	0.0
GOVERNMENT	3.6	3.5	3.6	0.1	0.0
Federal	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
State	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0
Local	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0

p=preliminary
r=revised

LAWTON METROPOLITAN AREA

(Comanche County)

Labor force data for May in the Lawton Metropolitan Area estimated a 425 increase in the employment level and a 125 decrease in the number of jobless.

This combination produced a 5.2 percent unemployment rate for May compared to the revised 5.5 percent rate in April. It is estimated increased hiring for the wheat harvest was primarily responsible for the seasonal rise in employment and the lower level of jobless workers.

Unemployment stands 200 higher than last May and total employment still lags by 425. Recent indications show this is probably an aberration to the more positive recent employment trends.

Total non-farm wage and salary employment gained 200 in May, compared to the revised April estimate. Increases of 100 each was estimated in service and government, with all other industrial components remaining level with the April estimates. Yearly comparisons show a decline of 400 in wage and salary jobs compared to the same month last year.

LAWTON
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
ITEM	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	50,150	49,850	50,375	300	-225
Unemployment	2,625	2,750	2,425	-125	200
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.5	4.8	xxx	xxx
Employment	47,525	47,100	47,950	425	-425

LAWTON
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
Industry	MAY 1988p	APR 1988r	MAY 1987r	APR 88 MAY 88	MAY 87 MAY 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	34.0	33.8	34.4	0.2	-0.4
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.4	3.5	0.0	-0.1
DURABLE GOODS	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.1
CONSTRUCTION	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	-0.1
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	1.2	1.2	1.6	0.0	-0.4
TRADE	8.6	8.6	8.6	0.0	0.0
Wholesale Trade	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	7.6	7.6	7.6	0.0	0.0
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.0	-0.1
SERVICES	5.9	5.8	5.7	0.1	0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.0	11.9	11.8	0.1	0.2
Federal	5.6	5.6	5.8	0.0	-0.2
State	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.1	0.3
Local	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	0.1

p=preliminary
r=revised

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Research Department, Room 310, Will Rogers Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Phone (405) 557-7260.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
310 WILL ROGERS BUILDING
2401 NORTH LINCOLN BLVD
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105-4495

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